



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT AGENCY
EUROPE REGION OFFICE
UNIT 29353, BOX 200
APO AE 09014-0200

IMEU-PWD-H

SEP 02 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Voluntary Assignment to Family Housing

This memorandum expires in 1 year.

1. References:

a. AR 210-50, 26 February 1999, and USAREUR Supplement 1, 16 May 2002, Housing Management, paragraph 3-13h.

b. Memorandum, Deputy Secretary of Defense, 8 January 2003, subject: Housing Requirements Determination Process Policy Guidance.

2. Effective 1 October 2005, Servicemembers with families in the Army in Europe may choose either to be assigned to available Government family housing or to reside in private rental housing in the local host-nation community. Families that choose to reside in private rental housing will be eligible for payment of overseas housing allowance. This policy will be included in a new edition of USAREUR Supplement 1 to AR 215-50, which will be published as AE Supplement 1 to AR 210-50.

3. Longstanding DOD policy requires the Armed Forces to rely primarily on the private sector to meet the housing needs of military families (ref 1b). Only when the private sector is not capable of providing housing should the construction, operation, and maintenance of Government housing be considered.

4. Garrison commanders continue to have the authority to require incumbents of designated key and essential duty positions to reside on installations. However, all other military families will be given the option on assignment to a garrison of choosing to reside in available Government family housing or in private rental housing in the host-nation community. The choice the Servicemember makes will be the permanent housing selection for the duration of the Servicemember's tour of duty. If the Servicemember decides to move to other accommodations later, a subsequent Government-funded move will not be authorized.

5. If Government-controlled family housing is available, a family may be allowed to stay in transient accommodations for up to 30 days and receive temporary lodging allowance while seeking suitable private rental accommodations. If a private rental unit is not available within 30 days, the family will be temporarily assigned to available Government-controlled family housing until a private rental unit is available. Servicemembers should not have their household goods delivered to temporary housing since they will not be authorized a Government-funded move when they find suitable private rental accommodations.

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6. Families currently residing in Government-controlled family housing that desire to relocate to private rental housing will be permitted to do so; however, all costs associated with the move will be at the individual's expense. This includes the cost of moving the household goods and belongings of the family, telephone and cable television reconnection fees, and the costs associated with cleaning and clearing their currently assigned Government family housing. Families that relocate from permanently assigned Government family housing to private rental housing will be entitled to overseas housing allowances, but will not be authorized move-in housing allowance (MIHA)/miscellaneous (JFTR) for initial occupancy expenses.

7. The guidance in this memorandum supersedes any previous garrison-level guidance that may have been published regarding mandatory assignment to Government family housing. Requests for waivers to this policy must be submitted to IMA-EURO (IMEU-PWD-H) for decision.

8. The point of contact is Mr. Day, Chief, Housing Operations Team, DSN 370-7211.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Russell B. Hall', is positioned above the printed name.

RUSSELL B. HALL
Director

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